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The Administrative Record Staff



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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OFFICE OF  
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

SUBJECT: Release of Interim Final Guidance  
on the Data Quality Objectives Process

FROM: Gary J. Foley  
Acting Assistant Administrator  
for Research and Development (RD-672)

TO: Assistant Administrators  
Regional Administrators

This Interim Final document "Guidance for Planning for Data Collection in Support of Environmental Decision Making Using the Data Quality Objectives Process" (DQO Guidance) is one of a series of quality management requirements and guidance documents that have been prepared by the Quality Assurance Management Staff (QAMS) to assist users in implementing the Agency's mandatory quality assurance program.

The purpose of the document is to provide general guidance to organizations on developing data quality criteria and performance specifications for data operations. To assist in this development, QAMS has developed the Data Quality Objectives (DQO) Process that leads to the effective and timely planning of data collection activities. The DQO Process is based on the Scientific Method but removes most of the obscurities by expounding the process by a series of seven interrelated steps.

The document has been extensively peer reviewed by senior managers and scientists within the QA community and recommendations from the Laboratories and Regions have been incorporated in the document.

I am releasing this Interim Final version to the Agency and general public and also soliciting recommendations for changes and additions. Please submit comments in writing to QAMS before December 15, 1993. These comments will be reviewed and incorporated into the final version for issuance in January 1994.

Should you need further information on this or any other Quality Assurance documents, please call QAMS at 202-260-5763.

Attachment

cc: QA Managers

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